

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

EDITED BY MRS. M. K. WALTON.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE.—All communications intended for this department should be addressed Mrs. M. K. WALTON, Fort Worth, Tex.

WOMAN.

Woman may err, woman may give her mind to evil thoughts, and lose her pure estate; But for one woman who affronts her kind A thousand make amends in aid and youth By heavenly pity, by sweet sympathy, By patient kindness, by enduring truth, By love, supremest in adversity.

—Charles Mackay.

IN BRIEF.

Dr. Swing in a late discourse on "Woman" showed quite plainly that Paul with all his cherished perception did not foresee the woman of 1900. To keep silence in the churches may not be difficult, but the doctor is of the opinion that for a wife to learn from her husband at home on every subject, secular or religious, is not necessary, and he might have said is not always possible.

Under the new dispensation there is an enlightened womanhood whereof the voice should be heard, and that it is heard is the reason for much of the elevation in sentiment that has marked this century. Silence woman's voice in all causes that lead to reformation and advancement, chill their effort in philanthropy, compel them to be keepers at home, and there would be a clog put under the wheels of progress that are long would completely check all advance.

Paul has many disciples in his gospel relating to woman. Men are much more apt in quoting the laws he lays down for women than in such of his teachings as relate to man's chief end—and hence men's writings abound in lessons on woman's proper sphere, her duty and her shortcomings. Men who lay much stress on their chivalric devotion to the sex oppose the idea that women should be equipped for the business of life; they talk very beautifully, and were this Arcadia it might be practically of woman's dependent nature that to be lovable she should be void of individuality and find her chiefest charm in a feeling of dependence on man. Very pretty is this, but Arcadia is a poet's fancy, and the world has rocky paths for tenderly nurtured girls, as well as for braveny men.

It follows, therefore, that much of the counsel that is gratuitously given to women avails little. It seems not to occur to these counselors that the necessity of self-maintenance is often thrust upon women than sought after, and when this condition arises the exhortations are too great to admit of any preparation for the work.

There can be no question that woman was designed for a different sphere than that of man, but until men learn the full measure of their duty and use the powers bestowed upon them in more efficient ways, there will always be opportunities for women to exercise all their faculties, not only for their own support, but for the helpless, aged and infirm who are necessarily dependent upon them, and whom no man will help.

There is no just ground for criticism of woman in the exercise of her personal liberty; woman's intelligence, her activity and her emotions are hers, and so long as she remembers her true function as a spiritual force ever to be found in the vanguard of philanthropy, so long as she discharges faithfully her holiest duties to humanity that of her inheritance with that of her less gross nature, she is not a proper subject for adverse criticism. It is manlier to extend a brother's hand to smooth away difficulties that are in the path, and let her feel that she has the ready sympathy of fellow travelers along a path not easy to any feet.

Reform in women's garments is decidedly perplexing. At the moment when ears are strained to hear the soft frong-frou of the stiletto, the dress reformers launch the mudslinging gown; just at the time when ears are watching to catch a glimpse of a trim ankle and the dainty ruffles that must be lifted in muddy weather, these very practical women invent a gown that cannot be lifted, because of its peculiar fashioning. Of course sensible men will admire a costume that abolishes a dragged skirt, but as sensible men are in a hopeless minority, the mudsling gown is likely to find small favor with any but the eccentrics of either sex.

Some rejected suitor is working off his spleen by saying that engagement rings are now made adjustable, so that one ring may serve many fingers. This is an admission that women, as a rule, return the ring to their discarded suitor, and is a little advance along the line of truth; heretofore paragraphs have expended their weak humor upon the girls whom they accuse of becoming engaged in order to increase their stock of jewelry. There are girls who think that more fitness in such matters if lovers' vows were not adjustable. What hurts a woman most is not that some other girl may have worn the ring, as that some other girl has listened to and believed his vows of eternal fidelity.

It was the touch of nature which caused the passers-by in a large city to stop and gaze for a moment on a child who, with her toys lying around her, had fallen asleep upon the small grass plot in front of her city home. She had grown tired of play, but fast asleep in her arms with all the mother-love of her little heart, was her doll. Men, hurrying to and fro in the eager pursuit of money or ambition, delayed a moment to look upon the flushed cheek and sunny hair of that sleeping child, whose world knowledge was only of pure love and innocent pleasure.

The "man and brother" has long been a disturbing element in society and politics, and now the "woman and sister" is making herself heard. It seems in the distribution of offices the lady managers of the women's board of World's fair commissioners have ignored the colored lady. That is, they have made a distinction "for whites," which does not meet the approval of the factious. Mrs. Susan Gale Cooke, secretary of the board, reviews the situation and denies any want of recognition of the colored women, and affirms that in the interest of harmony the lady managers determined to leave to each state the duty of looking after its interests in the exhibit regardless of race or color distinction. In her circular she urges that the state boards give every encouragement to the colored people "to show the world what marvelous growth and advancement has been made by the colored race and what a magnificent future there

is before them." This is good counsel, but the plums remain beyond the reach of the ambitious "sister."

CHATS ON FASHION.

When nature puts on her russet gown for decoration, she allows the leaves to borrow some of the gold of summer and the crimson of the evening skies to give brightness to a dress that were else grave and dull tinted. Women, who love the mother in all her guises, may catch inspiration from her coloring, and while they wear the chaste gray, the sober brown and the somber black may take the bird's bright wing and the golden yellow of the harvest-time for ornamentation. Sky, meadow and mine yield their store, and the treasures are converted into things of beauty for woman's wear. Of late the mines have been fashion's storehouse, metal trimmings and jet being the favorites. How many of those who step out into the sunshine, or pass under the bright evening lights, know that the glitter of their toilettes is gained for them by grimy men deep down in earth's caverns, and that the real jet so coveted is of the same nature as the glowing coals in whose flames these fair dreamers see so many delicious visions? And yet this jet, before it was cut, carved and polished, was only a black bituminous mineral known in Pliny's time as *gazit*, because most abundant on the banks of a river in Lydia called, as was the town, *Gages*; from *"gazit"* the corruption to "jet" was easy, yet the material remains the same. A modern imitation now glitters on hats, bonnets and gowns and is mingled with fur and feathers. Long fringes of it are attached to each side of the belt and cover plain side-panels on the skirt. These are also attached to a collar and fall in a cape-like form; here is an opportunity for a woman who knows how to create new forms with old material. Such passamenterie as is passe can be ripped to pieces and restructured in pretty fashion to form fringes; this can be done with pearl and metallic beads with equal appropriateness. The day of steel passamenterie is waning, and while gilt is popular, the girl who would shine fashionably must shine out in jet and shine abundantly.

Dainty workmanship on dresses is what now distinguishes the modish gown from its homely imitation. To have the gown "tongy," or "vehic," whichever is the chosen term, it is necessary that there be not the shadow of a curve the wrong way, nor a variation of a thread in the perfect adjustment of the seams, or the plain gown will be a failure. Dressmaking is now a fine art. Bodice, sleeves and skirt must be fitted, or the harmony is destroyed. Especially should care be taken in making the skirt. It should be fitted and re-fitted until there are no wrinkles and the bottom falls easily everywhere equidistant from the floor in front and at the sides, with a slight dip in the back. This dip has given to the petticoat increased importance, in fact, it has become an article of luxury with its laces and its frills. When it can be afforded it is of silk, the color of the dress. For such who are less lavish, a black silk petticoat answers the purpose and is made with four and a half straight breadths of taffeta silk. The front and side breadths are adjusted to the figure, the back is plaited and the skirt sewed on to a very narrow belt, the bottom is faced with light-weight wigan, this covered with mohair. A pinked-out ruffle is set on so as to fall about two inches below the skirt, and another above it on the facing, for the good reason that a worn ruffle is easier replaced than a frayed skirt made whole.

For a girl who knows how to carry herself with chest high, hips well defined and a springy, elastic step, a street dress of brown cloth made in the following fashion is becoming: The skirt is close-fitting, slashed on the left side to show a white panel, and the bottom is trimmed with velvet, set on in graduated rows reaching on one side nearly to the waist. The jacket is tight-fitting, slashed up the back and trimmed with velvet. Revers of white cloth open over a white vest, and with this tasteful gown is worn a standing collar and black necktie. To complete a costume so lady-like, it is only needed to have a hat of white felt, faced with brown velvet and trimmed with brown broad ribbon. In passing, one may say that broad ribbons and broadie will be the acme of fashion during the coming season.

The princess style is quite as popular for little folks as for their elders, and a child's frock can be made dressy by a border of torchon, Valenciennes or embroidery around the bottom of the skirt, and a pointed belt of the same. Such a frock has no sleeves, as with it is worn a long loose jacket of heavier material with buff sleeves, deep embroidered cuffs and a broad square-cornered lay-down collar of the lace or embroidery. The coat should reach the top of the lace founce on the skirt, and in order to keep it in place it is well to fasten a string to the center seam at the waist, pass it through the opening of the frock and tie it underneath the skirt. On children's dresses smoking is still much used, but is confined principally to four or five rows at the throat.

NOTES.

Usters for misses' school wear have deep capes.

Ombre chiffon is used for trimming evening silk toilets.

Corduroy is the favorite material for business to be worn with old skirts.

The skirts made crosswise of double-width material with a bias seam down the back are very popular.

The demand for palms and other tropical-looking plants for household decoration is constantly increasing.

Hats and bonnets are worn smaller than they have been, and are often pointed or have a high trimming in front.

For ordinary sleeves of the coat-shape at the lower part of the arm, with moderate width and height at the top.

For mourning, the black crepe cloth, which has deep crinkles like English crepe, is used either for a whole costume, or as trimming for dresses, mantles, etc.

Some of the newest importations in house-dresses are of the fashion but recently abandoned—the skirt opening in front over a figured material or one of a different color, but the front is quite plain.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Salt, as a moth exterminator, is said to have no equal.

Flour from winter wheat is preferred for cake making.

In serving chocolate shake, a very little cinnamon over the filled cup to make the beverage like the chocolate of Mexico and Havana.

Lime-water in the proportion of a quart of lime to a gallon of water let stand until clear, and use for rinsing dishes, is said to destroy earth worms.

A broom washed occasionally in clean, hot suds, shaken until it is almost dry, and then hung up, will last twice as long as it would without this treatment.

In bottling ketchup or pickles, boil the cork and wash it in the same liquid as the bottles, and when cold they are tightly sealed. Use the tin foil to cover the corks.

White crepon, soft bunting or fine chise cloth embroidered, hemstitched or in drawn work is used for pillow shams, made long and wide enough to cover both the pillows at once.

To clean bottles, cut a raw potato into small pieces and put them into the bottle with a little water, and shake for two or three days. Shake well together until every mark is removed.

Keep celery fresh by rolling it in brown paper sprinkled with water, then in a damp cloth, and put it in a cool, dark place. Before preparing it for the table, submerge it in cold water and let stand for an hour. It will be very crisp.

It may not be generally known, but finely powdered borax is one of the best articles for a severe cold in the head. If a little is snuffed up the nose, the congested membrane will give way before this simple treatment and the nostrils be cleared out in a short time.

As it requires a little time to prepare croutons to eat, when once ready, they will keep for some time. It is an economy of both time and trouble to keep a store of croutons on hand. Take any pieces of bread and dry them thoroughly in a cool oven, but do not allow them to brown. Crush them finely with a rolling-pin, pass them through a sieve, and put them away in a can or dry bottle.

RECIPES.

Broiled tomatoes.—Take ripe, sound tomatoes, slice, sprinkle with salt, lay on a broiler and broil, take up, pour over melted butter and serve.

"Cut both ends from a medium-sized eggplant," says "Good Housekeeping," "slice about an inch thick, parboil in salt water, drain, and dry in a cloth. Season with salt, pepper, and a little sugar. Remove the slices with a strainer, season with celery, salt and pepper, dredge thoroughly with flour and fry brown."

Green tomato chowder.—Clean and slice one peck of green tomatoes; soak overnight in salt water; drain, chop fine, and sauté again; take one quart of good vinegar, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, allspice, mustard and pepper, two cups sugar and two red peppers; boil two hours.

Royal fruit cake.—Five cups of flour, one and one-half cups each of sugar and butter, one-half cup of milk, one cup of molasses, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon, one pound raisins, three pounds currants, one-half pound citron, one nutmeg. This cake can be kept a year or longer.

Gumbo.—Cut up a tender, well-grown chicken; fry with two sliced onions and a quart of onion soup; add a half cup of butter, when brown, put in a saucepan, cover with water, add a dozen and a half pods of sliced okra, half a gallon of tomatoes, a pod of red pepper and a little salt. Stew very slowly for two hours.

Old Virginia chicken pie.—Make rich pastry; line a deep tin pan with it and fill with steamed spring chicken, sliced bacon, a teaspoonful of bread crumbs, a slice of cream, in a pan, boil half an hour; add three hard-boiled eggs, season with salt and pepper, cover with a top crust and bake slowly for two hours.

Spiced pears.—Peel four pounds of ripe pears, remove the stems, but leave whole. Make a syrup of a pint of water, three pounds of sugar, and the juice of six lemons, a teaspoonful each of cloves, allspice, mace, cinnamon and nutmeg; boil until thick, drop in the pears, cook tender. Put in jars and seal.

Apple jelly.—To make apple jelly from apple parings take the parings, cover with water, let them boil until the substance is out of them, then place the liquid in a pan, boil half an hour; add three sugar enough to make a jelly; then add sugar of lemon to one quart of jelly, or without lemon if apples are tart.

ALL-AROUND BAB.

Abandoned Woman in Front of a New York Clubhouse.

SLEEK AND WELL-FED BRUTES.

My Lady's Improper Stockings of Black Silk and Flesh Color—Golden Girdles.

Natural Hair for this Winter—Gall-Drinking Critics and Stage Hogs—Sarah Bernhard as an Exclusive.

William Black.

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New York, Oct. 27, 1891.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

It is a civilized country—at least, we think it is—and yet civilization doesn't seem to have done much to better the lot of the greatest amount of kindness possible. Yesterday, I stood by the Union League clubhouse, one of a group of five; four were watching one.

It was a woman, or at least the remnant of one; she had fallen against the railing of that respectable institution for old rumpus and she was weeping; there was a dreadful rash on her hand and she was bleeding horribly. The sympathizing crowd consisted of a gentleman, who had helped to pick her up, two curious messengers, boys and myself. I wasn't much except in the way of wiping the blood off her face; but one of the boys gave the whole keynote to the situation when he said: "She's a poor old woman, anyhow, Jimmy."

That was just it. She was poor and old, and it was just possible she was drunk; but drunk or sober, young or old, I think it was contemptible and mean to let her lie there on the pavement, cold and rain with the doors of the Union League club closed against her while she waited for an ambulance. It may be that it was the club's objection to admitting women, but very few men will get into heaven.

UNLESS A WOMAN TAKES THEM THERE, and I couldn't help but wonder if the rules of the club were so severe that this poor old wretch couldn't have been taken into the kitchen, given something to eat, been warmed up, and allowed to sleep for a little bit. I don't think she would have cursed the world so generally as she did if she had received this treatment; but I suppose the only thing the club men have to do is to elect a governor or mayor, or see that the street immediately in rear of the clubhouse is kept clean.

Or was it because she was drunk? I fall to see how that stood in her way—there have been drunken men in different dub-houses, and while half the newspapers and three-quarters of the women are screaming for their rights, I do not understand why, among better others, woman hasn't a right to get drunk. (I don't know if it is a very unwise thing, but it ought not to be denied to one who every other right, including that special one of supping, is given to lovely woman. Personally, I have no desire to get drunk.

but, the sight of this wretched old woman, whose worst crime probably was that she had taken a little too much beer, was poor, old and not pleasant to look upon, and those sleek, well-fed brutes, for they were that, who yawned and looked out the window at her and never gave her a helping hand, has made all the blood in my body boil. I am so ashamed of them, indignation wasted itself. Possibly, but we women have a way of being made indignant or happy about the little things of life, and curiously enough, it's the little things that make the whole wheel revolve smoothly.

WOMAN'S DIVINE IMPROVER HOSE. To go from that which is really serious to that which is a bit frivolous, I must ask: "Have you seen the new stockings?" They are most divine! Improver; they are of black silk to just about the knee, and then they are perfect flesh color, and when they are on, they look exactly as if you were wearing your garter on your skin and your black stockings were glued to you so smoothly it stayed in place.

NOW THEY WEAR GOLDEN GIRDLES. Next to these in the way of novelty appeared the golden girdle, not as it used to be, and not as it is worn by mere, ordinary, every-day people, but as it is made by a first-class jeweler, and costing something like \$50; it is of the tiny links of gold, just such as you find in the meshes of a purse, and it fits the figure so perfectly that it gives it, be it ever so stiff, a somewhat brilliant air that is most effective. I never saw a golden girdle as I like your bookish wife of the time of Henry II. of France. The king had a habit of giving to each of his lady-loves a golden girdle, until at last they became so common among the court ladies that the queen could not help but say: "A good name is better than a gold girdle." The same rule might be applied to bleached hair nowadays. Even the lady (?) of the quarter world is striped like the tiger in her endeavor to get her hair back to its natural color, for nature is going to be the vogue this year, and she must imitate, even if she be not of the gentle people.

As I am beginning to write, who can resist now for the average American, be he man, woman or child. And the reason for this is that, unlike his French or English brother, he doesn't know a good thing when he sees it. And such a good thing as so full of good things! He has a keen appreciation for whisky, a tolerably good

EYE FOR A PRETTY GIRL. He finds delight in tobacco in its various forms, when it comes to knowing good plays he is just as far out of it as that funny little dog that they call in the far South a tyke. New York has seen two magnificent productions—one of which I have already talked about and which is "The Taming of the Shrew." The other is one which is no longer in New York, but is worthy of more, a great deal more, good than was said about it. Those great gild-drinkers, the critics, objected to it, and yet it was not only a new presentation of the story of Nero, but it was a marvelous study of the Rome of that day. People who took the trouble to look at the stage discovered that every character was fashioned after the manner of that time, and that not one of the people in all the groupings was improperly, that is, incorrectly, dressed, and that, from the cloth of gold toga which Nero wore at his wedding feast to the crystal ball on the top of the astrologer's wand, there was not a detail that had not been thoroughly thought out, and not a single person who was not a Nero from Nero to the smallest boy, had had his costume neglected or not given proper thought. It was Richard Mansfield who produced this, and he showed Nero as he never had been shown before, as a selfish, self-lover. He showed how he could love, as well as how he could hate, and he made you understand that, though Nero's love was of a duration, it was at least love while it lasted.

THE AVERAGE LOVER on the stage kisses the woman to whom he is making love as if she were made of wood, and she, on her part, kisses him as if he were a piece of iron. And when they are away, and because she didn't have to say anything, it wasn't necessary to look as if she had ever heard of anything quite as improper as love. And when she is better lovers on the stage than do women—I don't know why it is. But with the exception of

THE DIVINE SARAH, I do not believe I have ever seen an actress who looked as if she loved a man, or even threw enough warmth in her words to give you an idea of what some emotion was far away, and because she didn't have to say anything, it wasn't necessary to look as if she had ever heard of anything quite as improper as love. And when she is better lovers on the stage than do women—I don't know why it is. But with the exception of

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WHAT THEY SAY.

THORN SPRINGS, TEX., Feb. 14, 1891.
I received your Webster's Unabridged Dictionary a day ago and have examined it, and must say I am highly pleased with it. I don't think I have ever seen a dictionary that I could not get another. Much success to THE GAZETTE.
J. L. DILLARD.

WAY, HALL COUNTY, TEX., Feb. 11, 1891.
To the Gazette.
GENTLEMEN—I received your dictionary a day ago and am highly pleased with it. I consider it well worth the money without the paper, and I would not exchange THE GAZETTE for any other paper in the state.
I also have the Encyclopedia of Human Nature and Physiology that you have been of great service to me in the past, and I think it is a splendid work and worth at least \$10 to any person just starting out in life. I have often wondered how you could furnish it so cheap. Yours very truly,
D. H. DAYTON.

ERA, TEX.
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